

How and Why I Collect Perfins

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Perfins or "Punchies" to most of us here on the West Coast, had on numerous occasions been displayed at our monthly hobby meeting; they held little interest to us because personally I collect U. S. and British Colonies and have for the last 14 years spent most of my time on "flag cancellations" to which my interests lean entirely today. My wife, Ann, took a special yen to black stamps and mourning issues, second to British coronations, and third to stamps that carry a killer numeral. Her field became limited and a sudden desire to secure "punchies" entered her mind after securing several hundred from Paul Segnitz of Milwaukee and a few more from friends here.

She found it difficult to identify some of them and solicited my help which proved fatal. Not knowing too much about them either, I spent one evening endeavoring to sort several hundred and digging into information to help her place them in some order. The interest in perfins has grown with us until now we find it just as interesting as trying to fill spaces in a Junior album.

Looking for some society to join to aid us in our efforts, we were advised by Paul Segnitz that the "PERFINS" club was forming and hence we proceeded to join as two members although our efforts in perfins are combined in one album and we share an equal interest in it.

We try to secure two stamps of each "punchie" and like the two stamps to be of the same denomination placing one face up and the other face down on black pages. Particular efforts are made to secure a letter that will authentically identify them.